

SENATE RESOLUTION 22—CONGRATULATING THE SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY JACKRABBITS ON WINNING THE 2023 NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION DIVISION I FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP SUBDIVISION TITLE

Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. ROUNDS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 22

Whereas, on January 8, 2023, the South Dakota State University (referred to in this preamble as “SDSU”) Jackrabbits defeated the North Dakota State University Bison by a score of 45 to 21 in the 2023 National Collegiate Athletic Association (referred to in this preamble as the “NCAA”) Division I Football Championship Subdivision (referred to in this preamble as the “FCS”) Championship game in Frisco, Texas;

Whereas this is the first national championship for the SDSU Jackrabbits football program and first team national championship in the NCAA Division I era for SDSU athletics;

Whereas the SDSU Jackrabbits finished the 2022-2023 season with an overall record of 14 wins and 1 loss, with 8 wins and 0 losses in the Missouri Valley Football Conference, including earning a number 1 seed in the FCS playoffs;

Whereas the SDSU Jackrabbits have qualified for the FCS playoffs the past 11 seasons;

Whereas the 2022-2023 SDSU Jackrabbits—

(1) averaged 34.2 points and 384.6 yards per game; and

(2) allowed only 15.8 points and 273.9 yards per game on average;

Whereas the SDSU head coach, John Stiegelmeier, was awarded the 2022 American Football Coaches Association National Coach of the Year Award for the FCS and the Stats Perform 2022 Eddie Robinson Coach of the Year Award;

Whereas Coach Stiegelmeier, a native of Selby, South Dakota, announced his retirement after 26 seasons as head coach of the SDSU Jackrabbits, finishing his head coaching career at SDSU, his alma mater, with a record of 199 wins and 112 losses; and

Whereas SDSU President Barry Dunn and Athletic Director Justin Sell have cultivated a standard of excellence within SDSU athletics and guided the athletic programs at SDSU to national prominence: Now, therefore, be it:

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates and honors the South Dakota State University football team on a successful season and for winning the 2023 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Football Championship Subdivision title;

(2) recognizes the hard work, dedication, determination, and commitment of the South Dakota State University football players, coaches, and staff;

(3) commends the Head Coach of the South Dakota State University Jackrabbits football team, John Stiegelmeier, for his dedication and service to the South Dakota State University football program; and

(4) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to—

(A) the President of South Dakota State University, Barry Dunn;

(B) the Athletic Director of South Dakota State University, Justin Sell; and

(C) the Head Coach of the South Dakota State University Jackrabbits football team, John Stiegelmeier.

SENATE RESOLUTION 23—DEMANDING THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA AND THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF CHINA IMMEDIATELY RELEASE MARK SWIDAN

Mr. CRUZ (for himself and Mr. CORNYN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 23

Whereas Mark Swidan is being unjustly and arbitrarily detained by the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Communist Party of China (CPC), according to the United States Government and the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) Working Group on Arbitrary Detention;

Whereas Mark Swidan is a United States citizen from Luling, Texas, and is a resident of Houston, Texas;

Whereas, on November 13, 2012, Mark Swidan was abducted by officers of the Public Security Bureau while on a business trip to the People's Republic of China, and on December 21, 2012, Swidan was formally arrested following an indictment issued by the Public Prosecutions Office of the People's Procuratorate of Jiangmen City alleging that Swidan was part of a criminal conspiracy with 11 other individuals to manufacture and traffic drugs;

Whereas, on April 30, 2019, a Chinese court sentenced Swidan to death, which he has appealed;

Whereas security officials in the People's Republic of China repeatedly attempted to coerce Swidan into signing a confession, but Swidan refused to sign a confession and pleaded not guilty;

Whereas, according to evidence evaluated by the UNHRC Working Group on Arbitrary Detention—

(1) no drugs were found on Swidan or in his hotel room;

(2) the prosecution did not produce any forensic evidence of the alleged offenses;

(3) records in Swidan's passport indicate he was not in the People's Republic of China during the time of the offenses; and

(4) the 11 other individuals indicted in relation to the alleged conspiracy could not identify Swidan;

Whereas officials of the People's Republic of China and the CPC have maliciously and systematically denied Swidan's mother Katherine Swidan, a resident of Texas, and other members of his family the ability to contact him;

Whereas officials of the People's Republic of China and the CPC have denied and continue to deny United States diplomats full consular access to Swidan, in violation of international norms;

Whereas Swidan's detention has been and continues to be inhumane, and includes exposure to extreme weather conditions, sleep deprivation, and physical and psychological abuse;

Whereas Swidan's health has precipitously deteriorated and security officials in People's Republic of China continue to deny independent or competent medical care and evaluation to Swidan;

Whereas humanitarian organizations of the United States, including the Dui Hua Foundation, which helped put this case before the Working Group, and the Global Liberty Alliance, which has asked the Sister Cities programs to sever relationships with Jiangmen until Swidan is released, have sought to highlight the injustice and conditions of Swidan's detention;

Whereas the UNHRC Working Group on Arbitrary Detention—

(1) found that Swidan is being held in violation of customary international law;

(2) emphasized the nonconformity by the People's Republic of China with international norms, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; and

(3) stressed that “the appropriate remedy would be to release Mr. Swidan immediately and accord him an enforceable right to compensation and other reparations, in accordance with international law”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) demands that the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Communist Party of China immediately release Mark Swidan;

(2) condemns the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Communist Party of China for refusing to provide Swidan with—

(A) regular communication with his family;

(B) access to United States diplomats; and

(C) independent and competent medical care and evaluation; and

(3) calls on the United States Government to deepen and prioritize efforts to secure the release of Swidan, including by—

(A) urging Chinese counterparts at every level of engagement to release Swidan, and

(B) using the voice and vote of United States diplomats in international forums to highlight Swidan's case.

SENATE RESOLUTION 24—SUPPORTING THE OBSERVATION OF “NATIONAL GIRLS & WOMEN IN SPORTS DAY” ON FEBRUARY 1, 2023, TO RAISE AWARENESS OF AND CELEBRATE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF GIRLS AND WOMEN IN SPORTS

Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mrs. CAPITO, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. BALDWIN, and Ms. DUCKWORTH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. RES. 24

Whereas “National Girls & Women in Sports Day” began in 1987 as a day to recognize and acknowledge the success and progress of girls and women in sports;

Whereas athletic participation helps develop self-discipline, initiative, confidence, and leadership skills, and opportunities for athletic participation should be available to all individuals;

Whereas, because the people of the United States remain committed to protecting equality, it is imperative to eliminate the existing disparities between male and female youth athletic programs;

Whereas the share of athletic participation opportunities of high school girls has increased more than sixfold since the enactment of title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. 1681 et seq.) (referred to in this preamble as “title IX”), but high school girls still experience—

(1) a lower share of athletic participation opportunities than high school boys; and

(2) a lower level of athletic participation opportunities than high school boys enjoyed over 50 years ago;

Whereas 60 percent of high school girls participate in a sport;

Whereas female participation in college sports has nearly tripled since the enactment of title IX, but female college athletes